

TABLE 1.—*Tornadoes and probable tornadoes*

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Number.....	0	11	5	18	33	44	12	5	4	4	1	0	137
Deaths reported.....		0	7	14	3	3	0	1	0	0	0		28
Injuries reported.....		21	31	97	12	26	0	0	0	5	0		192
Damage ¹		426.3	210.0	318.8	733.3	738.5	23.5	14.5	12.2	332.2	(²)		2,809.3

¹ In thousands of dollars.² Several hundred.TABLE 2.—*Tornadic winds and possible tornadoes* ¹

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Number.....	0	2	0	1	3	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	13
Deaths reported.....		0		0	0	0	0	0		0			0
Injuries reported.....		0		0	0	(²)	0	1		2			3
Damage ¹		37.2		(³)	8.0	25.0	16.5	8.0		20.0			114.7

¹ Some of these may not be classed as tornadoes in the final study.
² Several reported injured.³ In thousands of dollars.
⁴ Several hundred.

NORTH ATLANTIC TROPICAL DISTURBANCES OF 1937

By WILLIS E. HURD

[Weather Bureau, Washington, January 1938]

The hurricane season of 1937 was of comparatively short duration. The first tropical disturbance originated on July 29 and the last of definite tropical origin disintegrated over land on October 4. There were nine tropical disturbances in all over the North Atlantic, including the Gulf of Mexico. The final occurrence of the season was the only one on waters of the Caribbean Sea and that over only its extreme northwestern part. The year 1936 was also deficient as to occurrences in the Caribbean.

As in 1936, with 17 disturbances, of which less than 30 percent attained hurricane intensity, the percentage of those of like force, 2 in number, in 1937, was only 22. Thus for 2 consecutive years the percentage of disturbances of full hurricane force was much below the normal of about 50 percent for the past 51 years. The two hurricanes of the year occurred in September. Of the nine disturbances charted, seven occurred wholly or partly in September. Four were charted in the Gulf of Mexico;

and the tracks of three, two of which were hurricanes, lay almost entirely in Atlantic waters. Five of the disturbances dissipated over land, one at sea south of Nova Scotia, and three continued toward upper waters of the Atlantic or into the Arctic Ocean.

The only disturbance of the year to cause any considerable amount of damage was that of August 24–September 2 (track III in the chart). The damage occurred partly as the result of wind and rain in northern Florida on August 30, but was largely due to the heavy rains of the disturbance with accompanying floods over southern Alabama on August 31–September 1. A disturbance was in progress in the Gulf of Mexico from November 23 to 26, but it was apparently of extratropical origin. This disturbance was discussed in the November issue of the REVIEW.

A synopsis of some of the more important features of the nine disturbances of 1937 is given in the table herewith. Their tracks, numbered I to IX chronologically, are shown in the accompanying chart.

North Atlantic tropical disturbances of 1937

[Synopsis of tropical disturbances of 1937 (number of storm in table corresponds to number of track on accompanying chart)]

Storm	Date	Place where first reported	Coast lines crossed	Maximum wind velocity reported	Lowest barometer reported	Place of dissipation	Intensity	Remarks
I.....	July 29–Aug. 2..	Off west coast of Florida.	Florida, Nova Scotia.	60 miles, SW. S. S. <i>Mundrie</i> . Force 10, S. S. <i>Clare</i> .	29.44, S. S. <i>Clare</i>	St. Lawrence Valley.	Not of hurricane force.	Small damage to fruit and roads in Florida (A).
II.....	Aug. 2–8.....	Near 24° N., 70° W..	None.....	Force 10, on 3 vessels.	29.67, S. S. <i>American Trader</i> .	Near Sable Island.do.....	No damage reported (B).
III.....	Aug. 24–Sept. 2.	Northeast of Leeward Islands.	Florida.....	Force 10, S. S. <i>Solana</i> .	29.33, Coast Guard, Daytona Beach, Fla.	Arkansas.....do.....	Some damage due to wind, rain, and floods (B).
IV.....	Sept. 9–14 ¹	Near 18° N., 55° W..	Nova Scotia, Maine.	Force 10, S. S. <i>Winamac</i> and S. S. <i>Darcoila</i> .	29.30, on 3 vessels.....	St. Lawrence Valley.do.....	(C).
V.....	Sept. 14–19 ²	Northeast of Leeward Islands.	None.....	Force 12, several vessels.	28.20, on M. S. <i>California Express</i> .	North Atlantic..	Hurricane.....	(C).
VI.....	Sept. 16–21.....	Gulf of Campeche...	Florida.....	Force 10, S. S. <i>Oliver Olson</i> .	29.64, Port Eads, La..	Florida.....	Not of hurricane force.	(C).
VII.....	Sept. 20–26.....	Near 15° N., 44° W..	Nova Scotia, Newfoundland.	Force 12, S. S. <i>Nordenham</i> .	28.94.....	Arctic Ocean.....	Hurricane.....	(C).
VIII.....	Sept. 26–30.....	Near north coast of Cuba.	Newfoundland.....	Force 8, S. S. <i>Gulphawk</i> .	29.83.....	North Atlantic..	Not of hurricane force.	(C).
IX.....	Sept. 30–Oct. 4 ³	South of Yucatan Channel.	Louisiana.....	Force 8, S. S. <i>Gulphawk</i> .	29.62.....	Arkansas.....do.....	(C).

Complete reports of these disturbances may be found in the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW: (A) July 1937; 65: 281, 282. (B) August 1937; 65: 303, 304. (C) September 1937; 65: 332–335.

¹ Disturbed conditions were reported in the vicinity as early as the 6th, but no evidences until the 9th of a storm center.² On Sept. 10 the S. S. *Chincha*, near 19½° N., 40° W., reported a fresh to strong east-southeast gale and signs of a tropical cyclone.³ This disturbance was associated with a second low on Oct. 1. The 2 apparently merged on Oct. 2.

Paths of Hurricanes and Other Tropical Storms, 1937 (Plotted by W. E. Hurd)

